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LAW OFFICES OF PERCY, SMITH, FOOTE & GADEL

Z20 MURBAY STREET ALEKA (DELLA TIBIANA 71309-1632

J. MICHAEL PERCY DAVID P. SMITH* ELIZABETH ERNY FOOTE BRADLEY J. GADEL SUSAN C. SEGURA GREGORY ENGELSMAN *(A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION)

JAN 2 8 1993

P.O. BOX 1632
TELEPHONE (318) 445-4480
TELECOPIER (318) 487-1741
E-MAIL PSFG@centuryinter.net

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COSMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 4, 1997

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

BellSouth has just filed for approval from the Federal Communications Commission to become a long-distance service provider in Louisiana. I believe that BellSouth has earned the right to enter the long-distance market, and their application should be approved immediately.

As a businessman in a rural Louisiana community, I am concerned about the high costs of telecommunications services in my area and the lack of available choices. I would also prefer to consolidate all of my communications services with one provider - an option not currently available to me.

When BellSouth is permitted to offer long-distance service, I believe existing long-distance service providers will be compelled to provide local service in rural areas, which they have chosen not to serve, to compete with BellSouth for market share. This competition should result in lower prices, innovative products, and bundling of services that will give us the option to select one telecommunications provider for all our telecommunications needs.

Our local service provider, BellSouth, is responsive to my business and residential needs and provides quality services at reasonable costs.

No. of Copies rec'd OHL List ABCDE The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission December 4, 1997 Page - 2 -

However, since they are not authorized to serve the long-distance market, I have to use other carriers for this service. Too much of my time is consumed with keeping abreast of the best deals from the carriers and working with different personnel within each company on installation, maintenance and billing issues.

BellSouth has been a strong community supporter, working closely with government, business, educators and other civic groups to improve our quality of life. I know they want what is best for BellSouth, but I also believe they want what is best for our community, of which they are a part.

After examining their request, you should conclude that BellSouth has opened its networks to competition and should be allowed to compete for long-distance service, especially in more rural areas like ours that are not being served locally by others.

With kindest regards, I am

Respectfully,

J/Michael Percy

JMP/vlc

cc: Mr. Larry Nugent

WINN PARISH POLICE JURY

P. O. Drawer 951 • Phone 318-628-5824 • Fax 318-628-7336 WINNFIELD, LOUISIANA 71483-0951

LAMAR TARVER PRESIDENT

THELMA JARNAGIN SECRETARY-TREASURER TODD MARTIN VICE-PRESIDENT

District One SAMUEL FLOWERS District Two
EDWARD HAMILTON

District Three DELANE CRAIN District Four TODD MARTIN

District Five EARL LASYONE District Signal LAMAR TARVER

District Seven

JAN 2 8 1993

December 4, 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETAIN

CC Docket No. 97-231

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

In the interest of the citizens of Winn Parish, I am writing to urge your endorsement of BellSouth's application to enter the long-distance market in Louisiana.

In passing the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress intended for all consumers to benefit from full deregulation of the telecommunications industry, not just those who reside in urban areas with large businesses and affluent customers. Since we live in a rural area (an area generally considered more costly and less profitable to serve), long-distance carriers and other companies are reluctant to enter our market to compete for local telephone service. Thus, our choices are limited and competition is sparse.

As a result of competition in these communications markets, our community will benefit in may ways. First, we will finally have a real choice in both local and long-distance service providers. Second, companies seeking market share will lower rates, develop innovative products and bundle services, making it easier to do business with them. Third, consumers will be able to shop around for the best deals or select one provider for all of their telecommunications services. Finally, as I mentioned before, our community and the entire state of Louisiana will benefit from the economic investment that would accompany this move and the resulting employment opportunities for technically skilled workers.

Our public service commissioners had the best interests of Louisiana in mind when they endorsed BellSouth's application. You have the power to

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make a real difference in Louisiana's future by approving BellSouth's request and granting Louisiana the opportunity to be among the first states to have true competition in the telecommunities industry. I heartily encourage you to follow the lead of the Louisiana Public Service Commission today.

Sincerely,

Winn Parish Police Jury

LT/tj



Office of the Mayor-President

City of Baton Rouge Parish of East Baton Rouge

222 St. Louis Street Post Office Box 1471 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

504/389-3100

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JAN 2 8 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

December 2, 1997 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CC Docket No. 97-231

TOM ED McHUGH Mayor-President

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The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

Congratulations on your appointment as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. As you tackle the many issues needing your attention, I urge you to place one at the top of your list: Approval of BellSouth's application to enter the long-distance market in Louisiana. I also request that this letter of support become part of the public record of their filing.

This action is extremely important to our state because it will finally bring us long-awaited competition -- almost two years after it was officially authorized by Congress. Competition in the long-distance market will encourage other providers to move into the local, long-distance, wireless, and Internet access services.

As Mayor of Baton Rouge, the state capital, I welcome the new investments and jobs that will result from a truly open telecommunications market. Competition breeds new players, and those players build infrastructure and attract peripheral industries. The resulting technological jobs will require highly skilled employees who command mid-level salaries, not low-paying entry-level positions.

BellSouth has worked diligently since passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to open its networks to competition, as required. During the recent hearings before the Louisiana Public Service, BellSouth proved compliance with the all requirements and demonstrated an open network with operational interfaces. They have signed interconnection and resale agreements with 235 companies throughout the region, and their rate structure has been approved. Now they stand poised to enter the long-distance and await the entrance of other local service providers.

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Our public service commissioners have the best knowledge of Louisiana consumers, and they found BellSouth's application to be in the public interest. I know you will agree with them and approve BellSouth's application to be a long-distance service provider in Louisiana.

Sincerely,

Tom Ed McHugh
Mayor-President

TEMcH:df cc: All members of the Commission



DANIEL R. "DANNY" MARTINY

District 79

Environment, Vice Chairman

OCKETERE CORVENIENTE OF LOUISIANA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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JAN 28 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY 131 Airline Hwy., Suite 201 Metairie, Louisiana 70001 Telephone: (504) 834-7676 (504) 838-5095 Fax: (504) 834-5409

> Legislative Assistant: Norma Garretson Denise Mancuso

> > Insurance Enrollment

December 8, 1997

CC Docket No. 97-231

11 3 29 PH '97

Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing on behalf of my constituents to urge your immediate approval of BellSouth's application to provide long-distance service in Louisiana. I also request that this letter of support become part of the official record on their filing.

When the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was passed, Congress intended to open all telecommunications markets to true competition. The Bell Companies were to be allowed to offer long-distance service to their local phone customers after they opened their local monopolies to competition. A 14-point checklist was developed to facilitate the process of opening their networks to local competition.

For almost two years, BellSouth has used this checklist as a blueprint for entry into the long-distance market. BellSouth has complied with all of its requirements. BellSouth sought and received the endorsement of its local regulators, the Louisiana Public Service Commission. The commissioners also approved BellSouth's proposed rate structure. Now, having acted in good faith and having complied with all specifications, BellSouth is poised to offer a complete package of telecommunications services to all customers in Louisiana businesses and residences in both urban and rural areas.



December 8, 1997 Page 2

The Federal Communications Commission should heed the will of the people in Louisiana and approve BellSouth's application without delay.

Yours very truly,

Daniel R. Martiny State Representative District 79

DRM/ng



MAN AND A

CC Docket No. 97-231

December 1, 1997

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20554 RECEIVED

JAN 2 8 1993

DEFINE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Board of Directors of The Chamber/New Orleans and the River Region recently adopted the enclosed resolution urging and requesting the Federal Communications Commission's favorable decision to allow BellSouth's application to enter into long-distance service in Louisiana.

Our Board, which represents 2400 member firms in a seven-parish region, believes that BellSouth's entry into long-distance is in the best interest of the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, the businesses that operate in this area and the citizens at large.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the resolution, please contact me at (504) 527-6920 or Edie Drew, The Chamber's Director of Governmental Affairs, at (504) 527-6938.

Thank you for your consideration of BellSouth's application and The Chamber's endorsement.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Gayle, Jr., CCE

Br Sayle

President and CEO

enclosure

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A resolution to urge the Federal Communications Commission to concur with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has opened its local network to competition and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance market is in the public interest; to find that facilities-based competition for local residence and business telephone service exists in Louisiana; and to approve BellSouth's application to provide competitive long-distance service in this state.

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a major corporate citizen of the City of New Orleans and the River Region, one of the largest single taxpayers in this area, and a major employer with thousands of active and retired employees and their families calling New Orleans and the River Region home, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a supplier of essential services to the City of New Orleans and all its citizens, and will become an even more important service provider if it is allowed to provide long-distance service, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth has invested more than \$4 billion in Louisiana, creating a modern, state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure for the use of the people of this state, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth's entry into the long-distance business is the best way to encourage the large long-distance carriers and other telecommunications companies to build their own networks and to invest in Louisiana in order to provide local telephone service to both business and residence customers in this state, and;

WHEREAS, new investment will create a \$922-million boost to the state's economy and more than 7,600 additional jobs by the year 2006, a significant portion of which will be in the New Orleans metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, businesses will have additional products and services to choose from, because more competition will encourage the development of innovative products and services as companies compete to attract customers, and;

WHEREAS, additional investment in Louisiana will attract more businesses and thus expand the tax base by hundreds of millions of dollars and provide much needed revenue for parishes and municipalities, and;

WHEREAS, we believe BellSouth's entry into long-distance is in the best interest of the New Orleans metropolitan area, the businesses that operate in this area and the citizens at large, and;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission endorsed BellSouth's request, finding that the company has met all local and federal competitive requirements and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance service market is in the public interest, and;

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act allows local exchange carriers that have facilities-based competition for local residence and business service in their region to file under Track A;

WHEREAS, PCS PrimeCo and Sprint Spectrum are currently providing a facilities-based alternative to BellSouth for local calls and are actively marketing services to both residence and business customers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAMBER/NEW ORLEANS AND THE RIVER REGION:

The Chamber/New Orleans and the River Region hereby urges and requests the Federal Communications Commission to concur with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has opened its local network to competition and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance market is in the public interest; to find that facilities-based competition for local residence and business telephone service exists in Louisiana; and to approve BellSouth's application to provide competitive long-distance service in this state.

| The foregoing | Resolution w | as declared | l adopted | on this, | the | 24th | day of | ١ |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|----------|-----|------|--------|---|
| November | , 1997. | | | | | | | |

President and CEO

The Chamber/New Orleans and the River Region

UCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL CC Docket No. 97-2 JAN 2 8 1998 December 6, 1997 The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communication Commission 1919 M Street M.W. Washington D. C., 20554 Re: Bellsouth's Long Distance Dear Der: Han an employee of Bellsouth. My employment with Bellsouth has spanned 27 years. I have been involved with small business Customers in the department which is their point of contact for obtaining telephone service. By interest in the Issue is actually thro-fold since I'm a residential telephone Consumer and a Belleouth employee. Please approve Belleviths
request to enter the long distance
market in Jouisiana.

les a teléphone service consumer I feel Bellsouth a entrey into this market will mean lower long distance Casts and the ability to choose one company to handle all my telephone needs. From my viewpoint as an employee of Bellbouts, true competition in the long distance business in The surest tway to encourage the long telephone service to residence as Well as business Customers in order to remain competitive. Economically it can't but help industry to grow and mean myself and other keeping our Expression and hope my viewpoint will be considered in making you decession.

Hours Very truly,

Sadie Helson

56/0 Landmoon Dr.

Breenwell Spap La 70739

Jel no 504 26/8825

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RECEIVED Mary Ann J. Francois 4600 Warrington Drive JAN 2 8 1998ew Orleans, Louisiana 70122 (504) 283-2088

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 3, 1997

The Honorable William Kennard, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

Congratulation and my very best wishes in your position as Chairman of the Federal Communication Commission. In todays competitive environment, I realize that you new role carries a tremendous amount of responsibility in addressing critical issues that impact all of us. It is for this reason that I am compelled to write this letter.

As a consumer and BellSouth employee here in Louisiana, I strongly encourage your support in allowing my company to enter into the long district market. It's a "win, win" for all of us; it encourages competition and results in increased benefits for the consumer.

BellSouth has publicly demonstrated that its local network is open and that its operational support systems work. My company is spending \$500 million this year to develop systems that our competitors can use to interface with our ordering and billing systems, and these interfaces meet all requirements outlined in the Telecommunications Act, FCC orders and the LPSC's rules for local competition. In addition, BellSouth has aggressively opened its local network to competition, having signed interconnection and resale agreements with 250 companies regionwide, including 87 companies that want to do business in Louisiana.

Allowing BellSouth to compete in long distance will finally give customers a real choice in long-distance service providers. Currently, three companies complete the vast majority of long-distance calls. These companies give big discounts to large business customers and other high-volume users, while small business and low-volume residential customers pay higher rates.

> No. of Copies rec'd List ABCDE

Chairman William Kennard Federal Communications Commission Page 2

I urge you to agree with the findings of our Louisiana Public Service Commission and approve BellSouth's application immediately. I firmly believe that BellSouth's entry into the long distance market is in the best interest of everyone here in Louisiana.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann J. François

W. O. JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.

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ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

December 5, 199 (EC 9 5 10 PM '97

JAN 2 8 1393

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CC Docket No. 97-231

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Federal Communications Commission now has under its review BellSouth's application and urge you to approve it without delay.

Businessmen spend too much time dealing with communications issues that could be simplified if we were able to select one provider for all of our services. I would like to have more choices, and I would also like to consolidate my local and long-distance telephone service with one company, whichever company I choose.

BellSouth provides my local telephone service, and I have choices in selecting my long-distance Internet access, and wireless providers. Where choices exist, there are product and service options as well as price competition, but it requires time and effort to keep up with the options and prices, which change frequently. Although there are good choices in some, but not all, market segments, I would like to have a single provider for all of my telecommunications needs.

BellSouth is the major local service provider and has been a good partner to our community. As a customer, my experiences with them have been positive. My company is also fortunate to have worked as a subcontractor on several projects, and our working relationship is a healthy one.

It is time for BellSouth to enter the long-distance market and compete with the existing providers. When this happens, the long-distance providers will quickly enter the local service market, and full competition in every segment of the telecommunications industry will come to our community. As consumers, we will then have more options of providers, products, and services, and prices will drop. We will also have the chance to select one provider and consolidate services, which will save my business my business time, effort, and ultimately money.

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Act now on BellSouth's application and approve it for the sake of business in Louisiana.

Sincerely,

JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Willie O. Johnson



BILLY MONTGOMERY JAN

District 9House Legislative Services, Chairman

JAN 2 8 1998

PERMAL COMMERCIATIONS COMMISSION
THE REST OF THE RECOGNATION

Legislative Assistant LYNETTE BURNS Home Phone: (318) 949-9115

4326 Parkway Drive Bossier City, Louisiana 71112 Telephone: (318) 741-7387 (318) 949-4724

House & Governmental Affairs Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay Ways & Means

November 13, 1997

STATE OF LOUISIANA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

Congratulations on your recent selection as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. As you settle into your new responsibilities, I want to call your attention to an important matter currently before the Federal Communications Commission: BellSouth's application to enter the long-distance market in Louisiana.

This application should be approved without delay, and I urge you and your colleagues to act quickly to make it happen. I also ask that you include this letter of support in the official record of the BellSouth filing.

BellSouth is only one step away from being able to provide long-distance service to the people of Louisiana, and the Federal Communications Commission, alone, can transform this step into a leap forward for our state.

Although the FCC must grant final approval, Congress intended for the states to be the primary decision makers in the deregulation of the telecommunications industry, particularly in the area of consumer interest. In August, when BellSouth publicly demonstrated that its network is open and that its operational interfaces work, the Louisiana Public Service Commissioners were impressed. The Louisiana commission followed with an endorsement of BellSouth's filing and later approved their proposed interconnection rates.

During the proceedings, BellSouth demonstrated full compliance with all requirements of the Telecommunications Act including the 14-point checklist. Now BellSouth is prepared to give Louisiana consumers the full benefits of competition - including lower prices, more choices and one-stop shopping - for all their communications needs.

No. of Copies reo'd_____ List ABCDE Competition in the telecommunications market will also foster a much-needed economic boost to the state in the form of more than 7,500 jobs and \$900 million in economic investment.

Grant BellSouth the approval it deserves now, and let the Information Age begin in Louisiana.

Sin**ee**rel

Billy Montgomer

State Representative

BWM:lb

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JAN 2 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

YOUR SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Arlena Acree Chairman John Hubbard Chairman-Elect Joe Pierce Past Chairman

George Nelson, Jr. Treasurer

Sharon McCullar Vice Chairman Community Development

Jerry Nelson Vice Chairman Councils & Affiliates Neil Erwin

Vice Chairman Economic Development

Ann Stokes Vice Chairman Education Steve Brown Vice Chairman Governmental Relations

Gard Wayt Vice Chairman Marketing C. David Barrentine Vice Chairman Membership Reginald Abrams Vice Chairman Minority/Women/Small

Johnie Wise Chairman Greater Shreveport Foundation, Inc. Russell S. Autry, CCE, CAE President

Business Development

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Gene Baugh

Ed Bradley Dr. Mike Brannan Vernon Chance Michael Craft Iim Elrod Bob Flurry Alice Frazier, CPA Lydia Gilmore Linda Haas, CPA Bob Hamm Dave Harmon Don Jagot Linda Johnson Alicia LaMont Arnold Lincove Martha Marak Brett Mattisson Kevin McCotter Bob McGuirt Francene Miller Malcolm Murchison Larry Russe Anthony Sanfilippo Mark Seals Melissa Simon George Sirven Philip Snyder Leroy Thompson Murray Viser

Fric Weiss

December 5, 1997

CC Docket No. 97-231

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman

Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, would like to go on record as supporting BellSouth's request to enter the long-haul, long distance telephone market in Louisiana. resolution of support passed by our Executive Committee on December 5, 1997.

We take this position for both personal and practical reasons. On a personal level, BellSouth is a neighbor, a local company with hundreds of employees in the Shreveport area. We can see their Industrial Park Development Commitment through their "feet on the street" all over north Louisiana. BellSouth is a mainstay of the business community and we believe they should have every chance at success in the future as they compete with companies whose employees and investment are not in our state, nor perhaps even in our country in some cases.

> As a practical matter, Congress passed new legislation in 1996 to open all areas of the industry to competition. We agree with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has met each of the requirements outlined in the law and that the public would be well served by their entry into the long distance market. Two other companies are already offering both business and residential local service right here in Shreveport. As Congress intended, they invested in infrastructure and created jobs. We believe BellSouth's entry into long-distance is in keeping with the free enterprise spirit of competition that is fostered by the business community and encouraged by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce.



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SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

400 EDWARDS ST. • P.O. BOX 20074 • SHREVEPORT, LA 71120-0074 Administrative Offices - 677-2553 • Info Center - 677-2500 FAX (318) 677-2541 • 1-800-448-5432

The Honorable William Kennard Page 2

The FCC has an opportunity to bring real, widespread telephone competition, both local and long distance, to Louisiana immediately, and we hope that you do so by approving the request that BellSouth currently has before you.

Sincerely,

Russell S. Autry, CCE, CAE

President

RSA/ec

A resolution to urge the Federal Communications Commission to concur with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has opened its local network to competition and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance market is in the public interest; to find that facilities-based competition for local residence and business telephone service exists in Louisiana; and to approve BellSouth's application to provide competitive long-distance service in this state.

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a major corporate citizen of the City of Shreveport, one of the largest single taxpayers in this area, and a major employer with hundreds of active and retired employees and their families calling the Shreveport area home, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth is a supplier of essential services to the City of Shreveport and all its citizens, and will become an even more important service provider if it is allowed to provide long-distance service, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth has invested more than \$4 billion in Louisiana, creating a modern, state-of-theart telecommunications infrastructure for the use of the people of this state, and;

WHEREAS, BellSouth's entry into the long-distance business is the best way to encourage the large long-distance carriers and other telecommunications companies to build their own networks and to invest in Louisiana in order to provide local telephone service to both business and residence customers in this state, and;

WHEREAS, new investment will create a \$922-million boost to the state's economy and more than 7,600 additional jobs by the year 2006, a significant portion of which will be in the Shreveport metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, businesses will have additional products and services to choose from, because more competition will encourage the development of innovative products and services as companies compete to attract customers, and;

WHEREAS, additional investment in Louisiana will attract more businesses and thus expand the tax base by hundreds of millions of dollars and provide much needed revenue for parishes and municipalities, and;

WHEREAS, we believe BellSouth's entry into long-distance is in keeping with the free enterprise spirit of competition that is fostered by the business community and encouraged by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission endorsed BellSouth's request, finding that the company has met all local and federal competitive requirements and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance service market is in the public interest, and;

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act allows local exchange carriers that have facilities-based competition for local residence and business service in their region to file under Track A;

WHEREAS, PCS PrimeCo and Sprint Spectrum are currently providing a facilities-based alternative to BellSouth for local calls and are actively marketing services to both residence and business customers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

The Shreveport Chamber of Commerce hereby urges and requests the Federal Communications Commission to concur with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has opened its local network to competition and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance market is in the public interest; to find that facilities-based competition for local residence and business telephone service exists in Louisiana; and to approve BellSouth's application to provide competitive long-distance service in this state.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote hereon was as follows:

| | YEAS: 7 |
|---------------|--|
| | NAYS: |
| | ABSTAINED: |
| \mathcal{D} | The foregoing Resolution was declared adopted on this, the |
| 9 | Shreveport Chamber of Commerce |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

The Shreveport Chamber of Commerce hereby urges and requests the Federal Communications Commission to concur with the Louisiana Public Service Commission that BellSouth has opened its local network to competition and that BellSouth's entry into the long-distance market is in the public interest; to find that facilities-based competition for local residence and business telephone service exists in Louisiana; and to approve BellSouth's application to provide competitive long-distance service in this state.